

To: Delta Protection Commission

From: Margit Aramburu, Executive Director

Subject: Funding of Scoping Document for Delta Master Recreation Plan
(For Commission Action)

BACKGROUND:

In the CALFED Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement, in the response to comments from the Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee, CALFED agreed to fund preparation of a Delta Master Recreation Plan. No specific amount of money is mentioned. The Plan is to build upon recent and on-going studies of Delta recreation including the 1997 User Survey prepared by Department of Parks and Recreation for Delta Protection Commission and the Department of Boating and Waterways, and the Department of Boating and Waterways' on-going "Boating Needs Assessment" for the Delta. Preparation of the Delta Master Recreation Plan was omitted from the actions included in CALFED's Record of Decision, signed in August of 2000.

DELTA AD HOC RECREATION COMMITTEE:

The Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee has been meeting since late in 1998 when the former CALFED executive officer, Lester Snow, invited the recreation community to develop recommendations for recreation to be included in the CALFED program. The current mailing list is attached.

The Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee has commented on the draft environmental document, the Stage IA actions, the North Delta project and the South Delta project. A report to the Commission on the actions of the Ad Hoc Recreation Committee from March 2000 is attached for your information.

DELTA MASTER RECREATION PLAN:

Several reports and studies have been prepared addressing Delta recreation in the last five years. The Delta Master Recreation Plan would build on the findings of those studies and on the ideas developed by the Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee, review funding sources and opportunities for partnerships for new

recreation and access facilities in the Delta, and develop an implementation strategy for Delta recreation. While many needs and opportunities have been identified by the Ad Hoc Recreation Committee, those ideas must be carefully reviewed by the public, landowners, recreation business owners, special districts, and local governments.

Staff of Delta Protection Commission, Department of Boating and Waterways, and Department of Parks and Recreation met and discussed what would be appropriate next steps in preparation of a Delta Master Recreation Plan in the absence of funding, or a description of the Plan by CALFED. The recommendation from that meeting was to request funds from CALFED for preparation of a Scoping Document. It is estimated that cost of preparing the Scoping Document would not exceed \$20,000.

The Scoping Document, to be prepared by a consultant, would develop a budget, timetable, and tasks for preparation of the Delta Master Recreation Plan. This would include meeting with CALFED and CALFED agencies, Delta Protection Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Boating and Waterways, Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee members, local government representatives, California Delta Chambers, and water interests. The consultants would review material prepared to date and review past and current projects and plans. A draft scoping document would be prepared, circulated for review and input, and revised. It is estimated that preparation of the scoping document would take approximately three months, including time for reviews.

This approach was presented to the Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee at its last meeting; the Committee members concurred with this approach. The group also recommended that the Delta Protection Commission oversee the preparation of the Scoping Document and the Delta Master Recreation Plan. The Committee recommended sending the attached draft letter to CALFED requesting the funds for the Scoping Document.

ALTERNATIVE FUNDING FOR PREPARATION OF SCOPING DOCUMENT:

If CALFED cannot quickly fund preparation of the Scoping Document, an alternative would be funding preparation of the Scoping Document with funds from the Delta Protection Commission's current year budget. The Commission set aside funds for assistance by the Attorney General's office for work on adoption of the policies in the Commission's Land Use Plan as regulations. Only a small portion of the reserved funds was needed. The funds are from the Boating and Navigation fund, derived from special taxes paid by boaters when they purchase boat fuel. If the funds are not used this fiscal year, the funds will be returned to the Boating and Navigation fund. The Commission's Budget and Finance Subcommittee will review this proposal at its meeting scheduled for Monday, March 19. Recommendations from the

Budget and Finance Subcommittee will be presented at the March 22, 2001 Delta Protection Commission meeting.

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Under the Delta Protection Act, the Commission appointed a Recreation Citizen Advisory Committee to assist in preparation of a recreation background report and the development of its Land Use and Resource Management Plan for the Primary Zone of the Delta.

When the Commission and Department of Boating and Waterways retained Department of Parks and Recreation to prepare a Delta Recreation User Survey in 1996, a larger advisory committee and interested parties mailing list was prepared which included citizen members, and local and State agency representatives.

The Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee was not appointed by the Commission but includes many of the same individuals in addition to representatives of angler and boating groups.

If the Commission accepts oversight and coordination responsibilities for preparation of the Delta Master Recreation Plan, the Commission should consider reconstituting a Recreation Citizen Advisory Committee which would include the members of the Ad Hoc Recreation Committee, citizens, and representatives of local, State, and federal agencies.

Delta Protection Commission Recreation Citizen's Advisory Committee, 1993

Steve Barsoom, Walnut Grove
Dr. Eddie Cajucum, Department of Recreation Resources Studies, CSU
Sacramento
Seth Cockrell, Brentwood
Keith Demetrak, Department of Parks and Recreation
Bob Gromm, Bethel Island
Sally Shanks, Walnut Grove
Gil Labrie, Walnut Grove
Chris Lauritzen, Lauritzen Yacht Harbor, Oakley
Walter J. Pierce, Bethel Island
Manuel Soliz, Antioch
Lloyd Wagstaff, East Bay Regional Park District
Steve Woodward, Herman and Helen's Marina, Lodi

Recreation Subcommittee and Interested Parties Mailing List
Delta Recreation User Survey, 1997

Commissioner Don Nottoli, Chair
Commissioner Don Murphy, Department of Parks and Recreation
Commissioner Bill Curry, Department of Boating and Waterways
Diana Jacobs, State Lands Commission
Judy Higley (Anderson), Department of Water Resources
Mervin Hee Department of Fish and Game
Dave Cox, Department of Parks and Recreation
Sally Shanks, Walnut Grove
Steve Woodard, Herman and Helen's Marina, Lodi
Chris Lauritzen, Lauritzen Yacht Harbor, Oakley
Bill Skinner, Solano County Parks and Recreation
Gene Andal, Sacramento County Parks and Recreation
Ron Russo, East Bay Regional Park District
Bob McMillan, San Joaquin County Parks and Recreation
Dave Flores, Yolo County Planning Department
John Carlson, City of Stockton Community Development
Paul Flores, City of Pittsburg Leisure Services
Randy Jerome, City of Pittsburg Planning Department
Ron Ward, City of Antioch Community Development
Lonnie Karste, Antioch Department of Parks
Tom Bland, City of Rio Vista Planning
Jack Crist, City Manager's Office, Sacramento
Harry Gibson, City of West Sacramento Planning
Don Schatzel, City of West Sacramento Parks and Community Service
Bob Balsmeier, Planning Commissioner, City of Isleton
Emile Seifert, Director, City of Stockton Parks and Recreation
Councilmember Heather Fargo, Sacramento
Larry Rillera, Yolo County General Services, Recreation
Gil Labrie, Walnut Grove
Bob Raab, Save San Francisco Bay Association
Dr. Eddie Cajucum, CSU Sacramento
Manuel Soliz, Antioch
Steve Barsoom, Walnut Grove
Seth Cockrell, Brentwood
Bob Gromm, Bethel Island
Lloyd Wagstaff, East Bay Regional Park District
Harry Englebright, Solano County Planning Department
Mike Winter, Sacramento County Planning Department
Peter Morse, Sacramento County Planning Department
Roberta Goulart, Contra Costa County Planning Department
Peggy Keranen, San Joaquin County Planning Department
Pete Soderberg, Dangermond and Associates
Victor Machado, City of Stockton Parks and Recreation
Laura Svensgaard, Sacramento County Parks Department
Ray Brown, Isleton Chamber of Commerce
Betty Wingfield, Rio Vista

Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee Mailing List (current)

Judy Anderson, Recreation Planning, Department of Water Resources
Stephen Andranian, International Jet Sport Association, Foothill Ranch
Jackie Ball, Regional Manager, Department of Parks and Recreation
Red Bartley, California Striped Bass Association, Modesto
Marina Brand, Department of Fish and Game, Stockton
Ron Brean, Chief, Northern Field Division Park Operations,
Department of Parks and Recreation
Alan Clarke, NCMA, Sacramento
Seth Cockrell, Operations Manager, Western Waterways Inc, Brentwood
Brian Collette, The Dangermond Group, Sacramento
Rob Cooke, CALFED
Bill Curry, Department of Boating and Waterways
Keith Demetrak, Department of Parks and Recreation
Jerry Desmond, Jr. RBOC, Sacramento
Steve Fiala, East Bay Regional Park District
Bob French, Area Commodore, Sea Scouts, Stockton
Bill Gaines, California Waterfowl Association, Sacramento
Tim Gallagher, City of Stockton Department of Parks and Recreation
Brian Gesea, Rio Vista Windsurfers
Charli Hand, Delta Chambers, Isleton
George Hawley, BBAC, Kelseyville
Dave Hodapp (Canoes), Sacramento
Gail Jesswein, RBOC, Gold River
Gwen Knittweis, CALFED
Bill Krauss, Apex Group/DGA, Sacramento
Gil Labrie, DCC Engineering, Walnut Grove
Georgia Lipphardt, Wildlife Conservation Board
Chris Lauritzen, Harbormaster, Lauritzen Yacht Harbor, Oakley
Craig Lundborg, Marina Owner, Delta Chambers, Bethel Island
Yvonne Mabee, Vice President, Water Resorts, Lodi
Bruce Macler, U.S. EPA, Drinking Water Office
Dick and Lana Maier (Small Boats), Stockton
Dennis Majors, CALFED
Pete Margiotta, Alamo
Charles McNees (Sport Fishing), Clovis
Lisa Ouellette (Canoes), Sacramento
Lew Penfilly, California Striped Bass Association, Rio Vista
Ed Peterson, BASS, Auburn
Don Reighley, BBAC, Oroville
Dave Smith, MRA, Lodi
Jeff Smith, San Joaquin County Parks and Recreation
Steve Smith, Rio Vista Windsurfers

Ken Scheidigger, Marina Owner, Delta Chambers, Andrus Island
Pete Soderberg, The Dangermond Group, Sacramento
Rick Soehren, CALFED
Laura Svendsgaard, Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks,
Recreation, and
Open Space
M'K Veloz, NCMA, Berkeley
Bob Wiens, RBOC, Sacramento

BASS: Bass Anglers Sportsmans Society
BBAC: Black Bass Action Committee
MRA: Marina Recreation Association
NCMA: Northern California Marine Association
RBOC: Recreational Boaters of California

DRAFT

Date

Patrick Wright, Executive Officer
CALFED
1416 Ninth Street, 11th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Request for Funding for Preparation of a Scoping Document for a
Master Recreation Plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Dear Mr. Wright:

The Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee was convened at the request of your predecessor, Lester Snow, to provide information and ideas about recreation planning as part of the implementation of the CALFED Program. The Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee includes staff of Delta Protection Commission, Department of Boating and Waterways, Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Water Resources, and representatives of the following boating and fishing groups: Northern California Marine Association; Marina Recreation Association; Recreational Boaters of California; California Delta Chambers and Visitors Bureau; Black Bass Action Committee; Bass Anglers Sportsman Society; and private marina owners and operators.

The Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee prepared and submitted comments on the Revised Draft EIS/EIS. The Response to Comments, Volume I: Impact Analysis (July 2000) included a mitigation strategy on page IA-7.7-5 that states:

"CALFED is committed to participating in and providing funding for a recreation master planning effort for the Delta. As identified in comments on the June 1999 Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR, this master planning effort should build on existing and ongoing planning efforts currently being undertaken by the DPC and the Department of Boating and Waterways...two important studies have been completed in the last few years that should be used in the planning process including an inventory of existing public and private recreation facilities in the Delta and a survey of Delta users to determine their needs. In addition to these studies, the DBW is funding a boating traffic study and a boating needs assessment. CALFED agrees that results of these studies should be used in developing a recreation master plan for the Delta.

As described in the Programmatic EIS/EIR, CALFED will participate in the recreation planning process, which is expected to proceed concurrent with CALFED's project-specific implementation planning for Program actions. Although CALFED will support this planning effort by providing financial assistance, it cannot commit at this time to providing a specific amount of funding because funding priorities for Program implementation have not been established. CALFED is committed, however, to participate in funding of this effort in partnership with other state, federal, and local agencies. CALFED also is committed to determining early in the Phase III process the level of funding that would be available for the master planning process.

CALFED will support the DPC and DBW in developing and implementing a recreation master plan for the Delta. In addition to CALFED resources, however, funds are expected to be potentially available from a number of grant programs administered by DBW...CALFED concurs that representatives of this ad hoc committee should participate in the master planning effort."

The DPR, DBW, and DPC staff recommend that a scoping document be prepared by a competent consulting firm with recreation planning expertise to develop a description of what the Delta Master Recreation Plan would include and what level of funding would be necessary to prepare that plan. It is estimated that preparation of the scoping document would cost no more than \$20,000.

This letter is intended to serve as a request that \$ 20,000 be set aside for preparation of a scoping document, that a firm be retained from the State of California master consultant list, with oversight of expenditure of the funds to rest with the Delta Protection Commission and the Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee.

As outlined in earlier correspondence, preliminary discussions indicate the Master Plan should address the following:

- Develop an oversight group to participate in the planning process.
- Update the Recreation Facilities Inventory.
- Review the CALFED Phase I Activities as to location, timing, and design.
- Develop a Master Plan that incorporates existing facilities, needed facilities, and proposed recreation improvements.
- Review funding sources for construction, and operation and maintenance of identified recreation improvements and identify appropriate sources for various proposed projects.
- Coordinate applications to various funding mechanisms.
- Review management strategies for long-term operation of identified recreation improvements.
- Prepare a written report and maps that identify type, location, and preliminary concept designs for recreation improvements and other mitigation measures.
- Coordinated review of the proposed products with oversight group, general public, and CALFED.

Thank you for inviting the continued participation of the Delta Ad Hoc Recreation Committee in the CALFED planning and implementation process. The Committee agrees that the incorporation of recreation into these processes is critical to the overall success of the CALFED program.

Sincerely,

Margit

Executive

Aramburu

Director